

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner states that the claimed "control means" is not illustrated.

The control means is exemplified by the microprocessor 21 running the software stored in the memory 22 as disclosed in the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 of the specification. This paragraph has been amended to more specifically define the control means. Since the control means is now identified in the drawings it is respectfully submitted that no drawing changes are necessary.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC 101 as being non-statutory. Claim 14 has been amended to call for the computer program stored in the in the memory of a digital processor. The claim does not now relate to a computer program pre se. A memory containing a stored data structure is statutory subject matter, which has been interpreted to mean that programs stored on a physical medium are statutory subject matter as a "manufacture" . In re Lowry 32 USPQ 2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Claims 1-13 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Will. Will discloses a watch with a rotating thumbwheel whose rotation axis is perpendicular to the watch's face, and which can be translated by finger pressure, inwardly with respect to the watch's case, in a direction perpendicular to the rotation axis. One disadvantage of this arrangement is that one could easily press unintentionally on the thumbwheel while rotating it, and on the other hand, the thumbwheel could be rotated by error, while only a translation action was intended.

The present invention, on the other hand, discloses a rotating roller, which can be translated by an inward pressure of the finger, in a direction parallel to the rotation axis. This arrangement is advantageous in use because it is less prone to mistakes compared to the arrangement of Will.

To more clearly define this feature, claim 1 has been amended to state that the interface device is sensitive to a pressure along the direction of its rotation axis.

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Claim 3 has also been amended to state that pressure is allowed along the direction of the rotation axis of the roller.

Claim 15 was objected to as failing to limit the subject matter of a previous claim. This claim has been amended to state that the display can also display non-alphanumeric graphical symbols.

For the reasons stated it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and allowance of the this application is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 36240.

Respectfully submitted,
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